

have limited it to 40 minutes. Basically, the Athlete Agents Registration Act would require sports agents who come to Nebraska to recruit Nebraska athletes to register with the Secretary of State. It would require them to disclose certain information such as their educational lot and occupational background, provide references, give indication of people with whom sports agents are in business, also require then the post of \$25,000 surety bond and limit the fee that they can charge athletes, Nebraska athletes who are becoming professional players, limit that fee to 10 percent of the yearly income of an athlete when he or she signs with a professional sports team. Any violation of the act would subject the sports agent to a Class III misdemeanor penalty which would be a maximum of \$500 fine and six months in jail. But, more important, the act allows the athlete to go to court if he feels that he has been taken advantage of by a sports agent and allows that athlete, him or her, to void the representation agreement and get back any money that the sports agent may have taken from them. So I think that is the most important protection of the bill. As I said, I introduced it in 1984. It was in response, on my own, to a situation that had arisen back then regarding one of the athletes at the University of Nebraska, on the University of Nebraska football team. You may recall, Nebraska had a very good athlete by the name of Mike Rozier. Mike Rozier had won the Heisman Trophy that year. That was the highest award that can be bestowed on a college athlete, college football player, and, of course, as you may remember, Nebraska's team was ranked number one, the top team in the nation for the entire year. It was disclosed later, of course, that a sports agent had contacted Mike Rozier during that year, actually before the season started, and had signed him to a representation agreement and had paid him money during the year, a total...I think it was \$600 for four months, or a total of \$2400. And, of course, as you may know, that was in violation of NCAA rules because NCAA rules, the governing body of college athletics, require that an athlete not receive money, that the athlete participate as an amateur athlete in college sports and if that athlete becomes professional or signs a representation agreement with a sports agent to negotiate a contract, that athlete will lose his eligibility. In theory, I think the concept of the amateur student athlete is an excellent one. In theory, athletes come out of high school, want to go to college; because they are good athletes, they are awarded grant in aids by various universities. The grant in aids, or athletic scholarships, as they are more commonly called, allow that athlete to attend